

REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated October 24, 2003, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on January 24, 2003. Please reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below.

Specification

In the specification, the paragraphs have been amended to correct minor editorial problems. These primarily include the addition of omitted reference numbers.

In addition, Paragraph 0002 has been amended to update the incorporation by reference to the U.S. Patent that issued from the referenced application.

Claims

Claims 1-10 remain pending in the application and are shown above. Claims 1-10 are rejected.

Claims 1, 9 and 10 have been amended, as shown above. The amendments are for the purpose of more clearly reciting the inventions. Claims 11-15 have been added.

Reconsideration of the rejected claims is requested for reasons presented below. Consideration of new claims 11-15 is also requested.

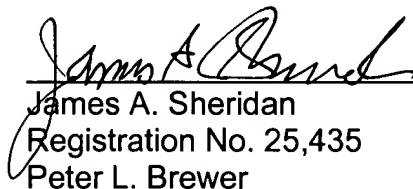
Claims 1-10 have been rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting. More specifically, claims 1-10 have been rejected as being unpatentable over claims 1-16 of U.S. Patent No. 6,524,451 B1.

In response, a terminal disclaimer is attached to this Response. The Terminal Disclaimer should remove the rejection under the cited '451 patent.

Conclusion

Having addressed all issues set out in the office action, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the claims be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



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